Improper use of funds in Poverty alleviation Programmes

3941. SHRI SANATAN BISI: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that World Bank has commented regarding improper use of funds in Poverty alleviation Programmes; and

(b) if so, the details including any new guidelines of the World Bank?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL): (a) No, Sir. the World Bank has not claimed that India misused anti-poverty funds. However, in their report titled "*India: Achievements and* Challenges in Reducing Poverty" published in May, 1997, the World Bank has concluded that anti-poverty programmes have not been cost effective in reducing poverty.

(b) Question Does not arise.

Constitution of Monitoring and Vigilance Committees

3942. SHRI SANATAN BISI: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Committee for monitoring and vigilance have been constituted to all blocks of the country; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL): (a) and (b) Instruction were issued to all State Governments for constitution of Monitoring & Vigilance Committees at State, district and block levels. As per the reports received from the States, only Assam, Haryana, Maharashtra, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Rajasthan and Dadar & Nagar Haveli have constituted the Monitoring & Vigilance Committees at the block levels.

Potable water in village

3943. SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that potable drinking water is a human right of a citizen;

(b) how many village are without potable water in India, State-wise;

(c) in how many villages the people drink salty water;

(d) in how many villages the people are drinking flouride water or the water with other chemicals or ingredients;

(e) the Government's plan to provide potable water to all these villages and in time bound programme; and

(f) the plan outlined be the Department of water resources management?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) State-wise number of habitations which are not covered with potable water is given in the statement (*see* below)

(c) and (d) Number of habitations estimated to have been affected by various quality problems is given below:

(i)	Flouride	—	27845
(ii)	Arsenic	—	9003
(iii)	Salinity	—	33552
(iv)	Iron	—	76404

(e) and (f) Water supply being a state subject, the Central Government supplements the efforts of the States by providing central assistance under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme. As per the action plan prepared by the State Governments, all the rural habitations of the country, except some parts of Rajasthan, are to be